



# COUNTY OF ERIE

## OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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**Kathy Dahlkemper**, COUNTY EXECUTIVE

### MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Erie County receives 7 national awards

Erie, PA – Erie County government received seven national awards in six different categories for county programs and services in this year's National Association of Counties Achievement Awards.

The seven awards are a record for Erie County in one year. Erie County's achievements this year also mark the most awards received by any county in Pennsylvania. The following programs were recognized:

- **Erie County Public Library Idea Lab** – The creative and collaborative makerspace, which opened at Blasco Library in 2017, offers expert-led classes to help budding entrepreneurs receive assistance in starting businesses, writing grants or learning new skills. (Libraries category)
- **Erie County Veterans Treatment Court** – The program, a collaborative effort of the Erie County Department of Veterans Affairs, Public Defender's Office, District Attorney's Office and Adult Probation Office, helps veterans navigate the criminal justice system with the assistance of volunteer veteran mentors. (Criminal Justice and Public Safety category)
- **Summer Jobs and More** – The program, which operates under the guidance of the County Executive's administration, offers opportunities for summer employment and soft-skills training to Erie County's young people. (Community and Economic Development category)
- **Project FIT** – The Erie County Department of Health program aims to address risk factors for obesity and chronic disease among youth through a series of basketball clinics, in partnership with local sports teams and the Erie BayHawks. (Health category)
- **50 in 50** – In this yearlong initiative, Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper visited a different Erie County business each week in 2017, blogging about her experiences at <http://50in50.eriecountypa.gov>. (Civic Education and Public Information category)
- **Inside EC** – This initiative by the County Executive's Office highlighted a different county office every day in April 2017 for National County Government Month. The information was shared on social media and at <http://insideec.eriecountypa.gov>. (Civic Education and Public Information category)
- **Erie County Municipal Stormwater Assistance Program** – This program from the Erie County Department of Planning was created to assist county municipalities in meeting federal and state requirements for stormwater. (County Resiliency: Infrastructure, Energy & Sustainability category)

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